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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Mercuri
Serial No.: 09/871,887
Filed: June 1, 2001
For: Assembling Bipolar Plates
Group Art Unit: 1745
Attorney's Docket No. P-1047/N-7343
Customer No. 23456

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

To the Honorable Commissioner
of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

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SEP 7 2001
TC 1700

Sir:

Applicant and his attorneys are aware of the following prior art references which are relevant for the reasons indicated. Copies of the cited references are enclosed along with a form PTO-1449 filed herewith.

1. U.S. Patent No. 6,080,503 discloses a typical prior art construction for an electrochemical cell.

The following references are cited in the body of the present application and relate generally to methods of manufacturing expanded graphite and expanded graphite sheet:

2. U.S. Patent No. 3,404,061 to Shane et al.
3. U.S. Patent No. 4,895,713 to Greinke et al.

4. U.S. Patent No. 5,902,762 to Mercuri et al.

5. U.S. Patent No. 5,928,807 discloses an integrated seal for a PEM fuel cell.

Respectfully submitted,



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ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT

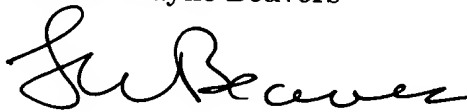
This attorney is located at our Nashville, Tennessee office and can be contacted directly at:

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CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAILING

I hereby certify that this Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO-1449, and copies of the cited references are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below, as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Lucian Wayne Beavers



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8/31/01

Date